HERE THEY COME. DEVILS FROM ANOTHER LAND.
AND ON ORDER O' T' HIGH COUNCIL I HAVE BEEN TASKED T' HARRASS THESE MONSTERS T' MAKE SURE THEY NEVER REACH OUR SHORES.
I BE A PRIVATEER FOR T' CAUSE AND I WILL DO ME DUTY.
WENCH, THIS'LL BE THIRSTY WORK-- SO HAVE A DRINK WAITIN' FOR ME WHEN I BE DONE!
AYE, CAP'N!
GIGAHHH ISH!
GIGAHHH ISH!.
IT'S A QUANDARY TO BE SURE. FIRST I WAS IN ONE PLACE AND NOW I FIND MYSELF IN ANOTHER.
THERE, AND NOW, HERE.
THERE A RESPECTABLE MEMBER OF THE QUEEN'S COUNCIL, HERE SURROUNDED BY FREELOADING RUFFIANS WHO, UNLESS I AM MISTAKEN, ARE MOST CERTAINLY ENGAGED IN CRIMINAL ENDEAVORS MOST UNBECOMING OF A MAN OF MY STATURE...
WHAT IS ONE TO DO?
SHADDUP AND HIT SOMETHIN'!
OH, VERY WELL.

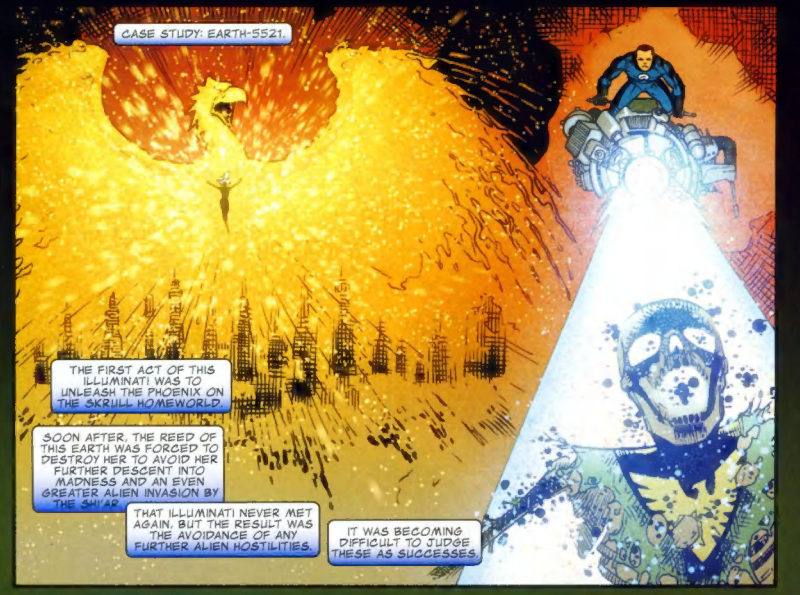
AGENT STORM TO HIGH COUNCIL... AGENT STORM TO HIGH COUNCIL...ARE YOU RECEIVING THIS?
YES -- REPORT, AGENT STORM.

IT GOES WELL, SIRS...
WE HAVE HARASSED THE ENEMY ALL ALONG THEIR BORDER. AT TIMES RESPONSE HAS BEEN HEAVY, BUT WE STAND FIRM.
I PROMISE, WHEN WE'RE DONE WITH THEM, THEY'LL NEVER THREATEN OUR LANDS AGAIN.
WELL DONE. CONTINUE THE GOOD WORK.

AND AGENT STORM, IF I MAY SAY...YOUR DISGUISE IS VERY BECOMING.
YOU LOOK QUITE FETCHING.

THANK YOU SIR. I'M LUCKY THE SCURVY ONLY TOOK ONE OF MY TEETH!

AGENT STORM, SIGNING OFF--
WOMAN!
I BE PARCHED!
COMIN', CAP'N!


CASE STUDY: EARTH-5521.
THE FIRST ACT OF THIS ILLUMINATI WAS TO UNLEASH THE PHOENIX ON THE SKRULL HOMEWORLD.
SOON AFTER, THE REED OF THIS EARTH WAS FORCED TO DESTROY HER TO AVOID HER FURTHER DESCENT INTO MADNESS AND AN EVEN GREATER ALIEN INVASION BY THE SHI'AR.
THAT ILLUMINATI NEVER MET AGAIN. BUT THE RESULT WAS THE AVOIDANCE OF ANY FURTHER ALIEN HOSTILITIES.
IT WAS BECOMING DIFFICULT TO JUDGE THESE AS SUCCESSES.

AHOY! THOUGHT YOU COULD SNEAK UP ON ME?
NOW, WENCH, GROG ME!
THIS'LL BE HITTIN' THE SPOT!
WOMAN, BE FETCHIN' ME BUCKOS A DRINK!
YES, CAP'N...
EXCUSE ME. A MOMENT...
I'D MUCH RATHER HAVE WINE IF YOU HAVE IT. SOMETHING SWEET PERHAPS?
NO!
WELL, DRAT... THEN MAYBE A CHATEAU RAUZAN-GASSIES?
THERE BE AN ENEMY FLEET!
OUR ACTIONS HAVE ONLY SERVED T' ENRAGE THEM.
CASE STUDY: EARTH-231.
THIS WORLD'S REED RICHARDS AVOIDED ALL FUTURE CALAMITY CAUSED BY THE ILLUMINATI BY ELIMINATING THEM AT THE POINT OF INCEPTION.
THIS REED KNEW THAT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WOULD THE BROTHERHOOD FAIL TO BE FORMED.
THIS REED KNEW THAT THEIR AMBITION WOULD EXCEED THEIR ABILITIES AND THAT CHAOS WOULD FOLLOW.
THIS REED FELT HE HAD NO OTHER CHOICE.
IT WAS AT THIS POINT IN MY RESEARCH THAT I BEGAN TO GRASP THE FUTILITY AND FOOLISHNESS OF OUR COLLECTIVE EFFORTS.
THIS UNDERSTANDING WOULD ONLY SOLIDIFY AS I SAW WHERE THESE EFFORTS LED.
TK

COLLAPSED SPACE-TIME.
FEED SEED
BANK
I SAY, THIS ESTABLISHMENT SEEMS TO BE SOMEWHAT SEDATE.
AYE! GROG BE TASTY, BUT THAR BE NO WENCHES ABOUT.
I'D WATCH YOUR TONGUE, FRIEND.
YOU'RE NEW AROUND THESE PARTS, SO IT'S T'BE EXPECTED, BUT WE DON'T TALK ABOUT THE WOMENFOLK 'ROUND HERE IN THAT MANNER.
WHY SO, LANDLUBBER?
YOU'RE FIXIN' TO SEE.
THE REASON WHY THE STREETS IS EMPTY, THE REASON WHY NOBODY'S DRINKING... THERE'S GETTIN' READY T'BE A RECKONIN'.

"BLACK SUSAN'S ABOUT TO DEAL DEATH TO ANOTHER MAN THINKIN' HE COULD CHANGE THE WAYS OF THIS TOWN.
"SHE'S THE REASON THERE AIN'T NO WHORIN' NOR GAMBLIN' IN TOWN.
"SHE MAKES THE RULES 'ROUND HERE, AND AIN'T NO ONE YET HAD THE GUN TO CHANGE THAT.
"BUT THE MAN IN WHITE MEANS TO.
"HE RODE INTO TOWN ONE DAY. NO ONE KNOWIN' WHERE HE CAME FROM OR WHAT HE DID BEFORE--HE JUST APPEARED FROM OUT THERE... SOMEWHERE BEYOND.
"HE WAS FULL OF IDEAS. THINGS THAT HE THOUGHT NEEDED CHANGIN'.
"SHE DISAGREED. SO NOW THEY'RE AT A IMPASSE.
"AND WHEN THAT CLOCK STRIKES TWELVE THEY'RE GONNA FIND OUT WHO'S GONNA GET THEIR WAY.
"AIN'T WE?"

THE BRIDGE.
BY THE TIME MY PARAMETERS HAD EXPANDED TO INCLUDE THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF THE ILLUMINATI, THINGS HAD GROWN PROGRESSIVELY WORSE.
CASE STUDY: EARTH-538
AFTER BEING CONFRONTED, THE BEYONDER CHOSE TO REMAKE THE WORLD INTO A PLACE WHERE HE IS WORSHIPPED AND ADORED.
CASE STUDY: EARTH-29007
THIS EARTH KNEW PEACE, AS ALL HEROES AND VILLAINS WERE TRANSPORTED TO A RE-IMAGINED BATTLEWORLD. THAT WAR WAS NOT SO SECRET.
CASE STUDY: EARTH-2819
WHEN CONFRONTED BY THIS REALITY'S ILLUMINATI, THIS BEYONDER CHOSE TO INCINERATE THE WORLD IN A FIT OF RAGE, ONLY TO REMAKE IT, STARTING WITH A SINGLE MAN AND WOMAN.
THIS WAS THE DEATH AND REBIRTH OF MAN.

COLLAPSED SPACE-TIME.
AHOY! THIS BE SOME KIND OF VESSEL. YOU MAKE A FORMIDABLE CAP'N, MATEY!
AH, YES. THEN THERE MIGHT BE SOMETHING OF A PROBLEM.
AYE?
I LACK THE ABILITY TO CONTROL THIS FLYING MACHINE.
WHHHOOOOOAA!
THE ENEMY HAS BEEN OVERLY AGGRESSIVE. THE ENEMY HAS BITTEN OFF MORE THAN HE CAN CHEW. THE ENEMY IS GETTIN' READY TO MEET HIS WORST NIGHTMARE.
A UNITED STATES SOLDIER COMMITTED TO VICTORY WITH A VIRTUOUS HEART AND A LOADED RIFLE.

DAYS OF MARVEL® PAST

This advertisement appeared in Marvel Comics published in 1983

70 YEARS MARVEL COMICS

NOW GET OUT THERE AND REPEL THESE INVADERS.
UNFORTUNATE NEWS, SIR.
WELL, WHAT IS IT, SON? SPIT IT OUT.
SHIP BE GOIN' DOWN, CAP'N. WE LOST HER.
ONE CHUTE LEFT, BOYS.
CALAMITOUS TURN OF EVENTS, I MUST SAY.
OH WELL...

8:00
BIIIIIIZZZZZZZ!
MORNIN'.
MURMBLE.
LET'S SEE WHAT'S GOING ON.
PLOOP!
OH, NO. WAKE UP, VAL!
WAKE UP!

NORMAN OSBORN IS A'COMIN'
AND HELL'S COMIN' WITH 'IM!
theBLVD
HAMMER
END CHAPTER THREE